

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows:

1 – 22. (Cancelled).

23. (Withdrawn – Currently amended) An isolated nucleotide encoding ~~the epitope an antagonist as~~ defined in claim ~~25~~ **1** ~~or an antagonist thereof~~.

24. (Withdrawn) The isolated nucleotide of claim 23, having a sequence defined within the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.

25. (New) An antagonist of a ligand for an epitope or footprint domain for binding integrins, in which said epitope comprises strands A and G of domain 1 of ICAM-4 (SEQ ID NO: 1), wherein said A strand (SEQ ID NO: 2) is defined by amino acid residues 17 to 27 of ICAM-4 and said G strand (SEQ ID NO: 3) is defined by amino acid residues 90 to 100 of ICAM-4, or in which said epitope is modified in that said A strand is replaced by strand F on domain 1 of ICAM-4, wherein said F strand (SEQ ID NO: 4) is defined by amino acid residues 77 to 87 of ICAM-4, or in which said epitope is further defined by amino acid residues W66 on strand E of domain 1 of ICAM-4 and K118 on strand B of domain 2 of ICAM-4, wherein said E strand (SEQ ID NO: 5) is defined by amino acid residues 160 to 170 of ICAM-4 and said B strand (SEQ ID NO: 6) is defined by amino acid residues 116 to 126 of ICAM-4, or an antagonist of a functional homologue of said epitope, and in which said footprint domain comprises a first epitope as defined for said epitope above and a second epitope comprising strand C and strand F of domain 1 of ICAM-4 and a CE loop of domain 2 of ICAM-4, wherein said C strand (SEQ ID NO: 7) is defined by amino acid residues 47 to 54 of ICAM-4, said F strand (SEQ ID NO: 4) is defined by amino acid residues 77 to 87 of ICAM-4 and said CE loop (SEQ ID NO: 8) is defined by amino acid residues 150 to 158 of ICAM-4, or an antagonist of a functional homologue of said footprint domain.

26. (New) The antagonist of claim 25, in which said antagonist has or consists essentially of three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine or more amino acid

residues of said A, C, F or G strands or said CE loop of ICAM-4, or a functional homologue thereof.

27. (New) The antagonist of claim 25, in which said antagonist defined by ICAM-4 strand A includes amino acid residues F18, W19 and V20 of ICAM-4.

28. (New) The antagonist of claim 27, in which said antagonist or its active site has or consists essentially of an amino acid sequence as defined in SEQ ID NO: 9.

29. (New) The antagonist of claim 25, in which said antagonist defined by ICAM-4 strand C includes amino acid residue R52 of ICAM-4.

30. (New) The antagonist of claim 25, in which said antagonist defined by ICAM-4 strand F includes amino acid residues T91, W93 and R97 of ICAM-4.

31. (New) The antagonist of claim 30, in which said antagonist or its active site has or consists essentially of an amino acid sequence as defined in SEQ ID NO: 11.

32. (New) The antagonist of claim 25, in which said antagonist defined by ICAM-4 strand G includes amino acid residues R92, A94, T95, S96 and R97 of ICAM-4.

33. (New) The antagonist of claim 32, in which said antagonist or its active site has or consists essentially of an amino acid sequence as defined in SEQ ID NO: 10.

34. (New) The antagonist of claim 25, in which said antagonist defined by ICAM-4 CE loop includes amino acid residues E151 and T154 of ICAM-4.